Victorians Won't Turn Out for Talent

City Singer Complains

OF ALL the various parts she has played, Mimi Robertson finds that of "Jill-All-Alone" in "Merrie England" her outstanding favorite.

Mimi, certainly one of Victoria's most accomplished and attractive young sopranos, has had plenty of parts to consider in arriving at a choice. She was "Frou-frou" in "The Merry Widow," "Casilda" in "The Gondoliers," "Minette" in "The Bride Ship," "Arline" in "The Bohemian Girl,' both at high school and with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and others. She was even a "Wood Pigeon" in a production of Hans Anderson's "The Snow Queen."

"Jill," however, remains her favorite, though she doesn't say why.

Mimi was born at Invermere in the Canadian Rockies but

Mimi Robertson . . . singing in Mme. Fahey's new production.

came to Victoria when she was six. Here she attended Lampson Street and Esquimalt High Schools and started the serious study of singing with Miss Gipsie Mahaffy when she was 13.

In 1952, along with Kitty Dixon, also of Esquimalt, she was chosen as a member of the Elgar Choir and made the European tour undertaken by that organization every year. As a matter of fact, Kitty was also a "Wood Pigeon" in "The Snow Queen" and Mimi still remembers their rather fantastic duet, entitled "Nobody can coo like we two coo!"

She also remembers—as who wouldn't? — narrowly escaping a plunge into the Royal Theatre orchestra pit on the same occasion.

"While I was struggling to get my balance," she says, "all I could see was the big drum in the pit right below me!"

Mimi sang in "Merrie England," "The Gondoliers," "The Merry Widow" and "The Bohemian Girl" with Victoria's Gilbert and Sullivan Society. With the Victoria Light Opera Company she was twice in Winifred Lugrin Fahey's "The Bride Ship," once as "Lady Mary" and once, for last year's Centennial production, as "Minette." Right now she is rehearsing as "Sally" in Madame Fahey's "The Jewel of Loodipoor," due for presentation on April 2 and 3 at Oak Bay Junior High School.

She won the Horace Heidt "Amateur Contest" in Victoria and subsequently competed at Eureka, California. In addition, she has appeared in a great number of concerts and variety shows.

In the realm of straight acting she played "Jean Maitland" in the Victoria Theatre Guild's successful production of "Stage Door."

Mimi is married to a singer. Alan Robertson appeared in seven consecutive Gilbert and Sullivan Society productions and in notable parts such as the "major-general" in "Pirates of Penzance" and the Mikado in "The Mikado." There are two generation Robertsons, Sheri, who is two, and Lynn, aged one.

"Sheri is singing already," says her mother, "I'm very pleased with her!"

Mimi Robertson is a devotee of light opera; she mentions "Naughty Marietta," works of "the Victor Herbert type" and Gilbert and Sullivan—though the latter are "far more difficult." She practices grand opera for her own private enjoyment.

"Personality," says Mimi, who has plenty herself, "counts for just about everything before an audience. Often they don't recognize the results of long, technical training."

Then she adds: "The most necessary thing in singing is to enjoy it! There are many singers who don't sing for the love of singing."

Mimi also announced that she "could talk for hours" on the subject of music, musicians and the appreciation of both in Victoria.

"There's a terrific amount of talent in Victoria," she declares, "but the public won't turn out to hear it!"

Well, that stirs up a sleeping dog of quite some proportions about which there are all manner of views and all manner of conditioning arguments and circumstances.

Far, far too many arguments, views and circumstances to deal with here and now.

RELIGIOUS MESSAGE

By IRENE ROBERTSON

Here is a book entailing considerable time and research, a book which is clearly intended to convey a message. **The Overturned Diadem.**

A religious work, it takes its title from Ezekiel, its theme from Revelations, and deals mainly with major events of the present generation and the 'signs of the times,' interpreted according to the faith of the author.

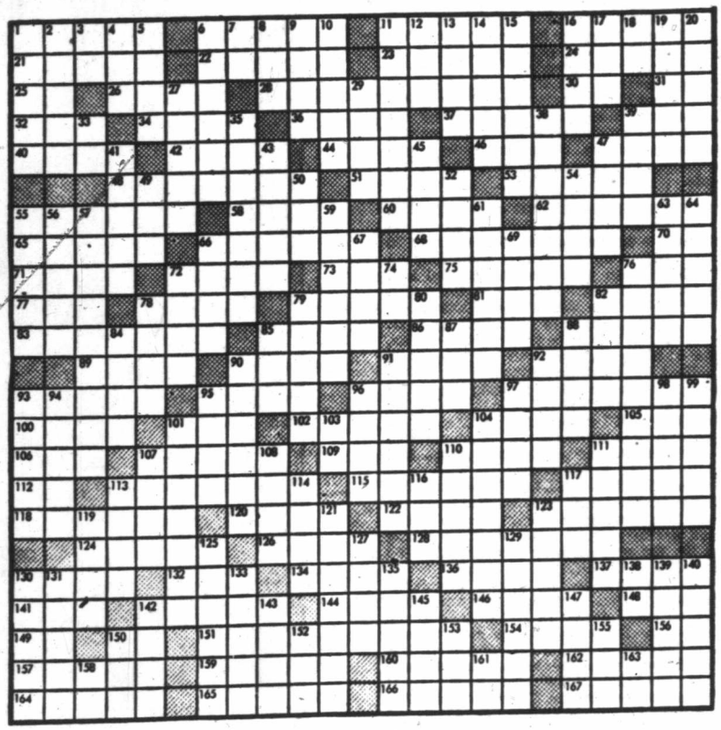
It should have a strong appeal for those whose thoughts are in a sympathetic vein.

If it does nothing more it may provoke the reader to open the Bible and read the cited scriptures.

ANAGRAM ANSWERS

(1) **FISSURE**
(2) **SECULAR**
(3) **PROMOTE**
(4) **NOTABLE**
(5) **ASKANCE**

SUNDAY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1 Hallow
6 Simpleton
11 Vegetable dish
16 Remove a player from a game
21 Milwaukee ballplayer
22 Saltpeter
23 Growing out
24 Old womanish
25 Pronoun
26 Invites
28 Choice
30 Symbol for tantalum
31 North Syrian deity
32 Illuminated
34 Masculine name
36 Lath
37 Paper fasteners
39 — Tse-tung Chinese Communist leader
40 Slight intentionally
42 — Speaker, once famous outfielder
44 Agitate
46 Confederate general
47 Civil wrong
48 Try
51 Old French coin (pl.)
53 Sailing vessel
55 Ousted Batista
58 Magpie
60 Tidy
62 Dormant
65 Lane between buildings
66 Changes
68 Thoroughfares
70 State (ab.)
71 Narrow inlets
72 Native metals
74 Sea bird
75 World
76 Jewel
77 Girl's name
78 Box
79 Peruvian Indians
81 Those in office
82 Fresh water fish
83 Tiresome
85 Distance measure
86 European
88 Discharged
89 God of love
90 Corn bread
91 Edible seed (pl.)
92 Whale oil cask
93 Deserve
95 Tree
96 Mark left by a blow
97 Fecund
100 The birds
101 Vehicle
102 Laughing
104 Charts
106 Occupied a seat
106 Radical
107 Color
109 Worthless leaving
110 Stringed instrument
111 Carried on person
112 Printer's measure
113 Hire for exclusive use
115 Sword blade famous for fine temper
117 Former silver coin of India
118 Set of steps over fence (pl.)
120 Kind of cheese
122 Irish for John
123 Gets up
124 Floats
126 The wallabas
128 Vindicates
130 Pile
132 Abstract being
134 Group of three
135 Danish weight (pl.)
137 To joust
141 Sloths
142 Rasp
144 Sicknesses
146 Fortune teller
148 Spanish for river
149 I am (contr.)
150 Buddhist monk
151 Continuance in use
154 Incapable of hearing
156 Size of shot
157 To put off
159 Girl's name
160 Proclaim
162 Having a watered appearance
164 Rugged crest of mountain
165 Pelts
166 Toward the centre
167 Moves with lever

DOWN

1 Ladies water from boat
2 Language of old Romans
3 Teutonic deity
4 To weep
5 Cut with single stroke
6 To guarantee
7 The gods
8 Pronoun
9 Native metal (pl.)
10 Narrates
11 Part
12 Emmet
13 Secular
14 Coral island
15 Refuses
16 Flying mammals
17 River of Norway
18 Symbol for nickel
19 Cloudless
20 Spartan serf
27 The same
29 Consumes
33 Measure of China
35 More devoid of ostentation
38 Small shot (pl.)
39 Be dull and spiritless
41 Diminishes
43 Rod for roasting (pl.)
45 Regrets
47 Young child (pl.)
49 Attempt
50 Golf mound
52 Satisfy
54 Solemn affirmation
55 Gem weight
56 Feminine name
57 Calumniated
59 Hypnotic state
61 Follows after
63 Female relative
64 Domesticated
66 Macaws
67 In the same category
69 Sea eagle
72 Musical composition
74 Hindu unknown god
76 Body of troops stationed in fort (pl.)
78 Product of combustion
79 Esoteric
80 Disbursed
82 Eating regimen
84 Flower
86 Electrified particle
87 Cereal grain
88 Kind of tree (pl.)
90 Corsair
91 Kind of horse (pl.)
92 Corded cloth
93 Female horses
94 Occurrence
95 Young salmon
96 Blowgun missile
97 Card game
98 Big
99 Heating vessel (pl.)
101 Kind of sled
103 Hawaiian hawk
104 Lunacy
107 Cook
108 Mother of Castor
110 Throw
111 Part of body
113 Applaud
114 Entranced
116 Meadow
117 Cornish prefix: town
119 Cleopatra's handmaid
121 Basin for mooring boats (pl.)
123 Concur
125 Tangles
127 River mud
129 Required
130 British Columbian Indian
131 Measure of Germany
133 Cut of meat
135 Fruit
138 Symbol for iridium
139 Measure of capacity
140 Carried
142 Pierce with horns
143 Fancy carrying case
145 In a short time
147 Inclined walk
150 Wager
152 Sea eagle
153 Insect's egg
155 In favor of
158 Symbol for iron
161 Symbol for calcium
163 Roman number

SOLUTION NEXT SUNDAY

Last Sunday's Solution

CAPER		PRATE		INANE		SCAN								
PARADE		RIPER		DELOS		TALE								
ARETE	REVEL	LEAPT		BUMBO										
NANA	CADET	ROARS		SIDE										
AMA	AUDIT	BEETS		SIRIONE										
ME	LYRIC	PASSE		SOLDO		EN								
ALSO	SITUATES		ATLAS		SPA									
	HOSE	OSIER	ORRIS		SLAT									
STOPE	TRANSVERSED		SHALE											
PURS	OO	GE	ELBOW		SEEN									
ETE	SETEE	ADMINISTRATED												
NT	SALEM	RAS	ET	NEARS		LO								
DISCRIMINATOR		AGAMA		RAG										
	CARD	NADIR	GT	MP	HATE									
CHORE	REPARATIONS		PAVES											
HARE	SAHARA	TABLE	AIDE											
AVE	SAICS	SIMULATE	EDEN											
FE	OLIDE	SLOES	RITES	XI										
ENTAILS	SPINS	ISLAM	ACE											
	ARMS	YEATS	ORIES	ALEC										
SERGE	WARTS	ORAGS	AGAPE											
OREL	CARVE	LOATH	EDICTS											
WISE	ANDES	ASSET	LOOKS											